

Dear Co-Chairs Sen. Flexer and Rep. Blumenthal, Vice-Chairs Sen. Slap and Rep. Morin-Bello, Ranking Members Sen. Sampson and Rep. Mastrofrancesco, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony for the bills to implement Early Voting (EV) and No Excuse Absentee Ballots (NEAB).

I believe we need at least two weeks for EV which would include early morning, evenings and multiple weekend options. As a point of reference the average number of day for EV nationwide is 23 days. Fair access must be provided in all town with the number of locations based on the number of eligible voters. Same day registration during the EV period must be provided for.

No Excuse Absentee Voting must be passed to allow for a ballot referendum in 2024. AB voting during the pandemic proved this is a way to increase voter turnout. Getting more people voting is a good thing. Voters want choice and NEAB gives less mobile voters a better option to participate in our democracy.

Sincerely,

Patrick A. Farley  
West Hartford, CT